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Mark Kozek* (mkozek@whittier.edu), Mathematics Department, Whittier College, Whittier, CA 90608-0634. *Mathematics in Literature and Cinema*. Preliminary report.

In this preliminary report we reflect upon our interdisciplinary course *Numb3rs in Lett3rs & Fi1ms: Mathematics in Literature and Cinema*. Recently, writers and filmmakers from countries such as Argentina, Greece, Japan, Spain, Sweden, and the United States have relied upon mathematics to provide the framework for their creative pieces. Although these may vary in mathematical rigor and literary/cinematic quality, the writers and filmmakers deserve praise for highlighting the much neglected connection between mathematics and the creative arts - a link that is both rich and deep.

We explore this connection by studying pieces of fiction or cinema that possess literary merit in which the use of mathematics is sound. We aim for these mathematical concepts to fall outside of the topics traditionally seen in the high school or calculus curriculum, yet are still accessible to most undergraduate students. Similarly we hope to eschew the more obvious examples of mathematical literature and cinema found in popular culture in favor of broadening our students' cultural horizons. We note that by "literature" we mean all written genres and by "cinema" we include all dramatic media and genres (theatre, television, documentaries...). (Received September 22, 2011)